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Established
1924

**Friday's
Notebook**

CAMPUS

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READ TO FIND OUT WHO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF PRESIDENT OBAMA'S CABINET AND STAFF ARE.

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THE HILLTOP

The Daily Student Voice of Howard University

VOLUME 92, NO. 81

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Friday, January 30, 2009

Professors to Receive Pay, Classes to Finally Begin

BY ANGELA P. SMITH
Staff Writer

Following strong advocacy efforts from the Howard University Student Association (HUSA), students can finally start their semester in the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health Sciences (CPNAHS).

According to HUSA President

Nicholas Owen, four weeks into the spring semester, a number of newly hired adjunct professors had yet to be paid. Due to a university budget deficit, these professors were considered new hires and could not begin teaching because of the university-wide hiring freeze. With no teachers, there were no classes.

"There are many students in CP-

NAHS who have yet to receive instruction in a variety of courses," Owen said. "Approximately 40 graduating seniors require certain courses taught by part-time faculty in order to graduate in May."

Aria Reed, a junior health management major in CPNAHS, and the deputy chief of staff and interim student advocacy director for HUSA, said

HUSA met with the faculty members earlier in the week. According to Reed, Alfred Fisher, Vice Provost for the Office of Health Affairs, said his office has now released the money to pay the professors and classes will begin next week.

CPNAHS Dean Beatrice Adderley-Kelly called a town hall meeting on Thursday evening for students unaware

of the reasoning behind their scrapped classes.

"I know we have had some glitches in the beginning of the semester, primarily in nursing," Adderley-Kelly said at the college's second town hall meeting of the year.

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Semesterly Purge Date Officially Announced

BY JESSICA LEWIS
Staff Writer

The purge date, which serves as the last time that a student can become validated before being forcibly removed from the university, has been officially set to Feb. 6.

The purge date comes twice a year, at the beginning of each semester, affecting as many as 400 students and as few as 89 each semester.

The purge process is described as "the removal of students that have not met their financial obligations," according to Alvin Thornton, Interim Provost and Chief Academic Chair.

The inability of students to finance their college education invalidates their enrollment at Howard University. According to Thornton, this procedure takes place because the university must furnish proof of the financial legitimacy of its students to the U.S. Department of Education.

Thornton said that the university must show that the federal money allotted annually is being managed properly.

"Students have to pay the cost of attending the university," he said. "We give them a period of time in which to meet these financial obligations, and if they do not, their registration has to be removed."

While negative connotations are associated with the term "purge," not all Howard students view these measures as an unwarranted necessity. "It is somewhat fair because they give you time to do what ever you have to do," said Jasmine Scott, a freshman physical therapy major. "If you do not do it, they have to do something, right?"

Last semester, there were 10,709 validated students at the university. This number increased from Fall 2007, which only saw 10,520 students validated.

Students may recall that the purge date was extended last semester due, in part, to the actions of the Howard University Student Association.

This extension may explain the significant decrease in the amount of students removed from Howard.

Of the 104 students who were purged last semester, 25 of them had been re-instated by Oct. 10, 2008 with only 89 students being permanently re-

moved. According to Thornton, the number generally exceeds 400.

"They will purge you, they do not care," said Scott.

"They will purge you, they do not care."

- Stephanie Lockhart

Stephanie Lockhart, a junior public relations major, has a different take on this removal process.

"As a freshman, you really do not understand the scope of the purge until it happens to you," Lockhart said.

Lockhart was once a victim of being purged due to a series of miscommunications between the financial aid office and herself.

In the 2008 spring semester, she was purged and was removed from her classes and the system. After working with the office of financial aid, she was eventually reinstated back into the university and remains a student at Howard.

This incident is not isolated: "My freshman year, one of my friends was purged in the middle of the semester and kicked out of her dorm," she said.

"They will purge you," she said. "They do not care."



U.G.L.Y. is an original play produced by Howard alumnus Darius Smith and Howard Players, the university's drama club. The story is a modern, coming-of-age tale about self-esteem and a 12-year-old girl learning to love herself.



Faraday Okoro - Staff Photographer



Faraday Okoro - Staff Photographer

Alumnus Creates an U.G.L.Y. Production

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
Staff Writer

Fat, smelly, dirty, slut and "U.G.L.Y." describes Geena Mae Jenkins, Howard's own outcast.

The search for her identity begins as 12 year-old Jenkins, taunted by her sixth grade class, begins her quest for acceptance.

Jenkins, played by Kristian Thomas, is the protagonist in the original musical U.G.L.Y., created by Howard professor and alumnus Darius Smith and produced by the Howard Players.

U.G.L.Y. tells the coming-of-age story of that many teenagers go through, but with a twist of laughter and tears as emotions are on the line with songs like

"I Love Facebook" and "I Got To Get Outta Here."

The play touches on the themes of self-identity, sexuality and relationships.

"It's not a typical musical," said Auri Satterthwaite who plays Ki Fitzgerald. "It has so many different messages; it has different music it is very R&B soul. It's not that razzle-dazzle Broadway sound that everyone is used to hearing; the music is haunting."

Smith said the idea for the play came a couple of years ago and the Howard Players approached him last summer asking if he wanted to put on the play.

"This is everyone's ugliness and beauty," Smith said.

Lucinda Belin, grandmother of Omar Ingram who plays Daniel Johnson, said after seeing the play, she understands a little bit more about the peer pressures young people have to face.

"She came to figure that if she had no friends and no one would accept her, she was going to change who she was," said Joshua Nelson who plays Scooter Silver. "She thought she was U.G.L.Y."

"U.G.L.Y." can be seen in the Environmental Theatre Space, located in the Fine Arts Building today until Feb. 1. Tickets are on sale in Cramton Auditorium. Friday and Sunday tickets are \$7.50; Saturday tickets are \$12.50.

Superbowl XLIII Sets the Stage for Newcomers

BY NATASHA ROBINSON
Contributing Writer

On Sunday, the Arizona Cardinals and the Pittsburgh Steelers will go head to head and battle it out for a gruesome four quarters to determine who is the best NFL team this year during Super Bowl XLIII in Tampa Bay, Fla.

According to NFL.com, this Super Bowl XLIII will be one of many to remember while both quarterbacks Kurt Warner (Cardinals) and Ben Roethlisberger (Steelers) mark the first time in 25 years that two quarterbacks who have won previous Super Bowl rings will match up against each other to claim a second one.

"I am not really excited about

this year Super Bowl although I think it will be a good one because it's a battle between the quarterbacks," said Makula Dunbar, a junior print journalism major.

Thousands of fans and football lovers have already gathered in Tampa Bay for this week's pre-Super Bowl festivities as well as show support to their favorite team. Vendors for both the Steelers and Cardinals have already set up outside preparing to make a buck or two.

Although the Super Bowl XLIII is the main event in Tampa, there are tons of other festivities for non-ticket holders to engage in and show their



Dem Murray - The Philadelphia Inquirer (MCT)



Lloyd Fox - Baltimore Sun (MCT)

The Arizona Cardinals, Super Bowl virgins, have gained a large fan base for its first Super Bowl in franchise history. They will face the Pittsburgh Steelers this Sunday for the victory.

support. Festivities will range from an all-star football game coached by rapper Snoop Dogg, to a Thursday night concert including artist such as Rihanna and Fall Out Boy, to an exclusive Super Bowl party held in the city zoo.

Cardinal fans are showing much enthusiasm for their team's first Super Bowl appearance in franchise history.

Aaron Coleman, a sophomore sports management major at the University of Maryland, is cheering loud and proud for his team.

Sporting his Matt Leinart jersey, Coleman said, "I actually really like the Cards [Cardinals]. They've been my

> See SUPERBOWL, page 3

Ledbetter Act Passes As Obama's First Legislation

BY OMARI EVANS
Staff Writer

After ineffectively struggling with the Republican Party last year, the Lilly Ledbetter Act was signed yesterday by President Obama, supported by the new House and Senate.

The act aims towards alleviating corporate pay discrimination.

"It is fitting that the very first bill that I sign — the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act — that it is upholding one of this nation's founding principles: that we are all created equal, and each deserve a chance to pursue our own version of happiness," said President Obama yesterday during the signing of the bill.

Lilly Ledbetter is a former Goodyear

> See LILLY, page 3

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Annual Legacy Day Celebrated



The John H. Johnson Business Plan Challenge gave students the chance to show their talents in exchange for monetary prizes and exposure.

BY TAHIRAH HAIRSTON
Staff Writer

In times of economic distress, the spirit of entrepreneurship thrived at the Legacy Day event annually held by the John H. Johnson School of Communications.

Legacy Day, created by School of Communications dean Jeanette Dates, follows the steps of John H. Johnson's dream of wanting young people to engage in entrepreneurship.

The event allowed for future business leaders in the School of Communications to participate in the John H. Johnson Business Plan Challenge and compete for winning monetary prizes to put towards their dreams.

Howard President Sidney A. Ribeau stopped by to say a few words of encouragement. "You learn as much from your failures as you do from your successes," Ribeau said.

There were a total of three winners, with prizes ranging from \$500 to \$1,500.

Brazen Magazine, founded by junior print journalism major Sophia Adem, won third place. The magazine intends to be a publication for African-American college students.

PGA Team, founded by graduate mass communications and media studies majors Cierra Robinson, Davia Crutchfield and Amanda Porter took second place. The three young ladies want to create a recreational center that helps keep youth off the streets.

"New age entrepreneurs create businesses around pandemic problems that don't have solutions," said Ann Walker Merchant, keynote speaker and CEO of Merchant Group.

Senior television production major Malaika Church, founder of Caribbean Animated Media, won first place and also a trip to spend the day at Johnson Publishing Headquarters. Her goal is to create a program catering to children in the Caribbean.

Dates said, "I hope to inspire students to take a plan and watch it grow into an enterprise."

ON THE SPOT!

What do you think about the annual tuition increases for the next five years?

Dangerous Weather Causes Rescheduled Events

BY LAUREN GASPARD
Contributing Writer

Various on-campus events were subject to cancellation Thursday as a result of the Winter Storm Watch issued by the D.C. Weather Service.

A number of administrators and students were concerned with the dangers of traveling in icy conditions, while others felt that continuance was more important.

"What Do You Mean I'm Talking Black? Pt. 2" was one program scheduled to take place Wednesday. In fear of dangerous driving conditions, an executive decision was made to postpone the event to March 12. School of Communications President Andrew Jones said, considering the inclement weather, the decision was the most logical.

"When some of the panelists expressed concern about driving to the program, in conjunction with the amount of people that may opt to stay in as a result of the weather, it was a collective decision to postpone the event," Jones said.

Despite safety concerns, cancellations can potentially have negative effects on the organization, when considering the planning of the events.

"It definitely has a reverse effect," Jones said. "When you invest money into public relations and promotions, possible catering and booking a room, that all goes to waste once a cancellation is made. Not to mention, the reputation of the sponsoring

organization is in jeopardy as well."

The College of Arts and Sciences (COAS) and the Department of Fine Arts also decided to postpone the emergency Town Hall meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening, due to the inclement weather. COAS President Bryan Smart stressed the importance of the meeting, although it was postponed.

"The purpose of the meeting was to address some of the recurring problems that the Fine Arts Division of Council was receiving complaints about," Smart said.

Smart said he did not want the cancellation to be a deterrent for students to express their concerns.

Sophomore interior design major Courtney Robinson said she felt inconvenienced by the lack of notification of the Town Hall Meeting postponement.

"I could have stayed out of the cold if I knew it was going to be canceled," Robinson said. "I had some concerns that I was ready to address that will now be prolonged because of the later date."

The Associate Dean of the Fine Arts Division, Mary Hill, chose to postpone the meeting for safety reasons, but still encourages everyone to come out next week with the same enthusiasm, to improve the department.

Though there were many or-

ganizations that chose to adhere to weather warnings, others chose to continue on with their regular schedule.

Industry Power Players (EPP), an on-campus entertainment organization, chose to go forward with their first meeting of the semester for framework purposes.

"This meeting was more than necessary today, as it is every week," said Marcus Johns, EPP President. "You have to establish a system for professionalism. Most professionals did not have the option to take off today, hence why we must continue on in consistency. Being consistent and keeping a constant schedule is important in an organization."

The International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi, Iota Rho Chapter, chose to go forward with their events, with this week as their Recruitment Week for prospective members. The fraternity's director of public relations, Royce Bable, expressed the importance of continuing the event for logistical reasons.

"We have scheduled events months in advance, with notable guest speakers who are essential toward our Recruitment Week," Bable said. "These events took months to plan and a lot of effort, in addition to all of those that are looking forward to attending."

Students have been advised to check the Web site for the university calendar to stay abreast of the rescheduling of events.



Due to inclement weather, some organizations decided to postpone their on-campus events to a later date. A Winter Storm Watch was issued by the D.C. Weather Service.

Graduate Students Discuss Obama, Nation's Empire

BY KIMBERLY JACOBS
Contributing Writer

In lieu of the recent inauguration, some wonder whether the nation has remained an empire.

This question was the basis for discussion in Thursday night's forum, presented by the Graduate Political Science Association.

The panelists, which included Political Science Professor Mae King, Ph.D.; Political Science Department Chair Daryl Harris, Ph.D., and Research and Methodology Professor Abdul Karim Bangura, Ph.D., explored politics through conversation and knowledge.

The point of "post-racial politics" made by Harris brought about much conversation, which unraveled the realities of what Obama's presidency meant for black Americans. Issues arose such as the absence of African Americans in Obama's cabinet and his conservative demeanor.

"It was interesting and wasn't sugar-coated," said Jennifer Felder, Vice President of the Political Science Association.

The different perspectives of both the panelists and audience allowed insight into the United States' future by also correlating the past.

King, who was present in the South during the Civil Rights Movement, used his past to motivate students to take action now.

Some students were curious to know how to make change today with the issues affecting them.

"Mobilizing around issues is how you make change," King said. "One has to organize and bring pressure."

Harris told the audience how movements get started initially pointing out that people need to be upset for change to occur.

Felder said "young people don't need to be so enamored by Obama."

According to Bangura, there is a lack of radical black politics that exist today.

The discussion yielded the ideal that one should consider capitalism, the economy and military forces when deciding whether the United States is truly an empire.

"Imperial power uses power as a force," King said, agreeing that military forces are indeed a factor in building the nation into an empire.

The audience left pleased with Barack Obama and the historic events, waiting to see how he brings about real change for the United States.

CPU Ready to 'Juke it Out' With Talent Show

BY ASHLEY JOHNSON-ALFORD
Staff Writer

Three years of being the State Club of the Year will be up for questioning as the Chicago People's Union (CPU) holds their 4th Annual Talent Show this weekend, in hopes of confirming exactly why their three-year streak has remained untouched.

This year's CPU president, Danielle Jones, has been working on this showcase since the beginning of the year, eager to make it bigger and better than last year's.

"We usually have a great turnout to the show, but this year I am trying to top that," Jones said. "We usually have a lot of different dance teams come and perform, but I am trying to branch out and do something different."

CPU Treasurer Royce Strahan said the audience can expect several Chicago dance groups, "including the dance group Boys of Poison, as well as some groups from the D.C. area."

According to Jones, many other acts will follow, in addition to the dance teams.

"This year, we are going to have a better variety of talent," Jones said. "We have rappers, spoken word and a special guest R&B singer from the Chicago area who will be performing live."

Also, CPU plans on showcasing some talent right from the Howard campus.

"Because CPU's membership is so large, we always have a CPU Dance Team of about 40 or 50 people who will also be performing at the show," she said.

Jones also said that more Howard students will be incorporated into the

show in order to show that CPU is involved and wants the Howard community to have input in the organization.

Looking to hold on to the title they have earned in these past three years, Jones has high hopes for the show.

"I encourage everybody to come out," she said. "We do it big every year, but this time we're stepping it up."

For those students who are new to the campus, this will be a first impression and some are convinced that it will be a good one.

Imani Muhammed, a freshman accounting major from Chicago, plans to attend and does not expect to be disappointed.

"The show is going to be live," Muhammed said. "There are going to be a lot of performances and a special guest." Strahan is anxious for the show and hopes all these expectations will be fulfilled.

"This year is different," he said. "CPU is the State Club of the Year and people on campus are excited to see what we can do, what we can come up with. The whole HU community is more excited about it this year than last."

Muhammed agrees, saying she would like the show to maintain success level.

"This show has to be better than last year's for the simple fact that there are more active members in the club," she said. "With the tons of new freshmen who just joined and all the old graduates who were members and are coming back for the show, it has to be amazing."

The show will be in Cramton Auditorium on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m., with tickets on sale for \$10.



"I feel it is ridiculous. I am thinking about transferring to an in-state school. I got scholarships everywhere except Howard. The only reason I will stay is because Dr. Ribeau is doing an awesome job at changing the university."

-Monica Lawes,
freshman, telecommunications



"I feel like it's unfair, but at the same time, tuition prices go up across the board at all universities. I don't like the fact that the prices are going up, but the money is actually going to something that is worthwhile."

-Vincent James,
sophomore, electronic studio



"I guess it is understandable because Howard is a fairly cheap school, for a private institution. But, I think it is going to put people in a bad situation because people have to pay for housing and other expenses."

-Heva Elmaiem,
freshman, biology/ physics

-Compiled by
Camille Augustin, editorial assistant

Howard Alumnus Debuts On Silver Screen Today

BY ALEESA MANN
Life & Style Editor

Ken Rance wasn't always the Hollywood type. But now, 16 years after graduating from the School of Communications, Rance has made it to the silver screen with his first major motion picture, "New In Town."

The film, slated to hit theaters nationwide today, tells the story of an ambitious businesswoman who moves from the big city to a rural town where she unexpectedly finds love and acceptance. "New In Town" was inspired by Rance's chance encounter with Letisha Strawbridge, an African-American Kraft Foods executive.

In a bid to become CEO of the company, Strawbridge chose to move from Miami, Fla. to work at a plant in New Ulm, Minn. where she was the only black woman in town.

"I was just so intrigued by some of the struggles and challenge of her being down there," Rance said. "I wanted to address the film about loneliness and exploring the question 'Can a woman have both the corporate brass ring and a family life?'"

Can she have both? It's a question Rance tackles in the film, which stars big names like Renee Zellweger as Lucy Hill, the ambitious executive, and Harry Connick Jr. as Ted Mitchell, her homely love interest.

Although the story plays out smoothly on-screen, there is one question left hanging in the minds of those who know the film's inspiration: Where is the African-American lead actress? "I showed [the film] to my agent in about 2000," said Rance. "He said he really liked the screenplay but he didn't feel he could sell it because it had an African-American female lead."

While pursuing his film in Hollywood, Rance was exposed to the racial undertones that still exist in the film industry. "New In Town" was originally written to star actress Gabrielle Union, but once the script was picked up by Gold Circle Film Pictures, the lead and her ethnicity was quickly changed for what was pegged as "salability." In the economic interests of the studio, more moviegoers would pay to see a film starring a white woman than a black one.

For Rance, the change was bittersweet. "I think it's a testament to the quality of writing in that this story was universal," said Rance. "[Race] wasn't a real integral factor in the success of telling the story."

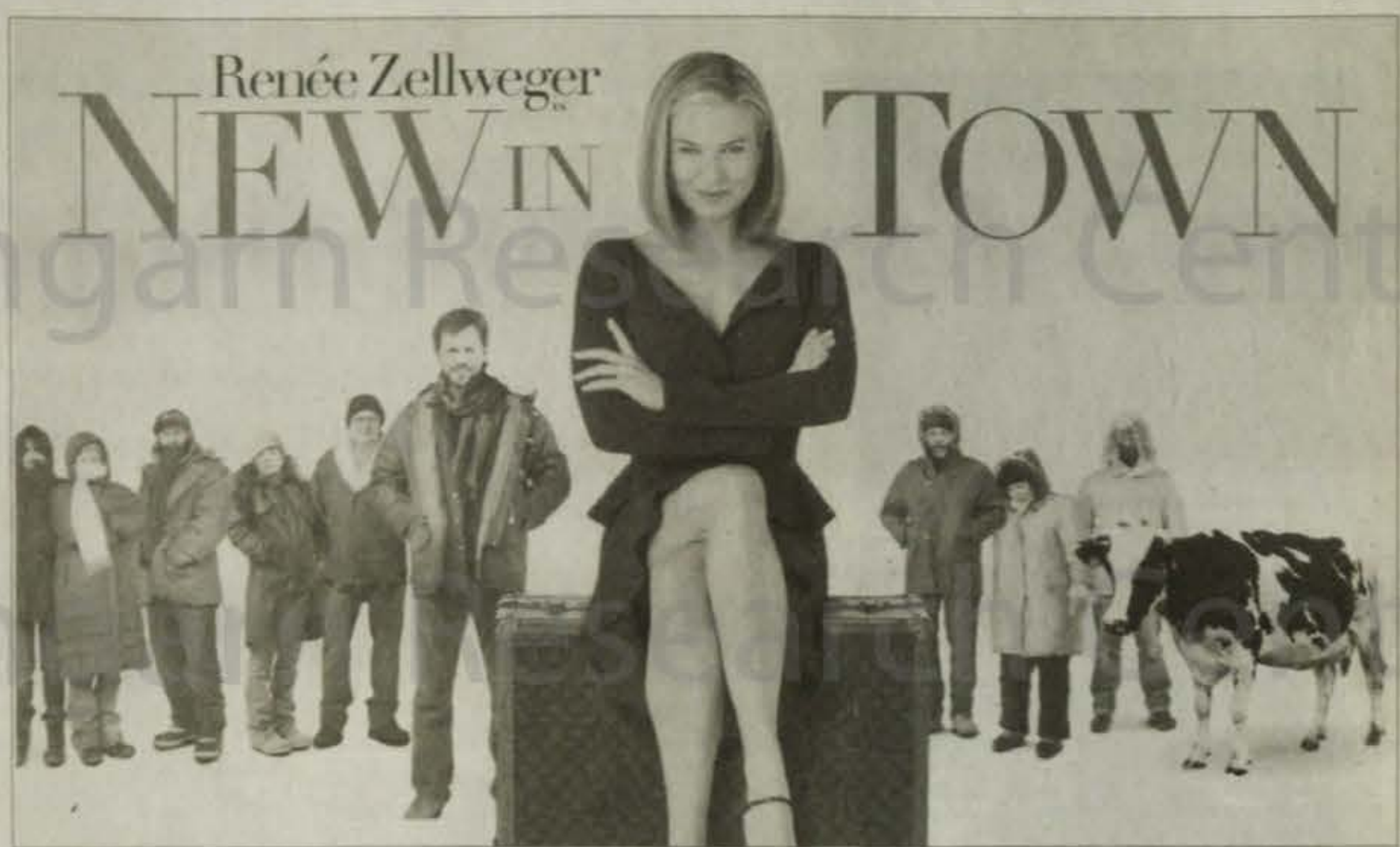
"But I do have to admit as a black man, as a black husband, and as a black father I always envisioned having that face on the DVD cover one in which my daughter could identify with," he said. For some students, issues of race in the entertainment industry are no surprise.

Despite the accomplishments of actresses like Halle Berry, who won an Oscar for her lead role in "Monster's Ball" (2001), there continues to be a disparity between film's with black leads and audience turnout. The Box Office Mojo reports "Monster's Ball" as one of the highest grossing films since 1982 that never made it into the top 10 films as far as weekend sales.

"I think it's typical of what goes on in Hollywood," said Liane Henry, sophomore acting major. "There are only a few black actors and they can only see them in particular roles." "I see that as black actors it is our duty to try and kill that stereotype," she said. Michael Calybourn, sophomore acting major agrees and believes black actors can work to expand their audience.

"What we can do as black artists is continue to push the envelope on what we do and be very selective of how we go about pursuing our careers," he said.

Despite changes to the script, Rance always felt his film would become successful, but he says it wasn't until he came to college that he was ready to



Howard Alumnus Ken Rance lends his own story to inspire a motion picture, "New In Town." The story was inspired by Rance's encounter with a Kraft Foods executive. The film, starring Renee Zellweger, features actors Harry Connick Jr. and Ted Mitchell.

take on the entertainment industry.

"[Howard] gave me the courage, the training, some people would even say the naiveté or the stupidity to actually think that I could go out to Hollywood and make something for myself," said Rance.

"One of the things Howard instilled in me was a greater sense of self and self confidence in knowing more about who I was as a man, and as an African-American."

Rance formed a special bond with Henry Joseph, former production manager for the Radio, TV and Film department, whom he called "Coach." Joseph remembers Rance as a student with a Kid n Play hightop fade, braces, and a lot of potential.

"Ken really took advantage of all the oppor-

tunities at Howard," said Joseph. "He was always doing stuff, he wasn't a procrastinator." From photography and camera work, to editing and production, Joseph recalls Rance always had his hand in a film project.

"Even with the braces and the hightop fade you had to take him seriously," he added. And aside from the hightop fade and braces, not much has changed for Rance who says he still has "a lot of different projects on the burner."

According to Rance, the next wave of black movers and shakers in the entertainment industry are coming out of Howard University. One of which he clearly is.

Superbowl Anticipation Begins to Build

continued from FRONT, SUPERBOWL

favorite team for a long time and it's exciting to see them go to the Bowl and win, because they will win."

Although this is not the Steelers' first Super Bowl appearance, fans aren't any less enthusiastic about their team. Nicole Alfred, a George Washington University alumna, believes the Steelers are definitely going to win the Super Bowl.

"The Steelers are going to definitely beat the Cardinals," Alfred said. "The Cardinals have drive but the Steelers have skill and techniques."

Junior American history major Amira Schroeder had a theory as to why the Steelers are going to win.

"If the Ravens had of made it to the Super Bowl, then Arizona would have won because they have beaten the other bird name teams in the consecutive weeks like the [Seattle] Seahawks, [Atlanta] Falcons, and the [Philadelphia] Eagles," Schroeder said. "But alas, the Steelers aren't birds so

the Cards [Cardinals] wont win."

Although millions of viewers will gather around the television to watch these two teams battle it out, the half-time show and commercials also have viewers watching anxiously, anticipating something new and fresh.

This year's half-time show features Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band.

"Even though Bruce isn't catered towards our generation it will probably be an interesting show," said Matthew Robinson, a senior political science major.

"Forget the half-time show; I'm all about the commercials," Dunbar said. "I'm glued to the TV because I don't want to miss any commercials. My bathroom breaks [are] during the game."

Although Tampa is the place to be during this time, there are tons of festivities and action going on in D.C. for the Super Bowl.

The Gaylord Resort and Spa in D.C. is offering a \$39 Super Bowl XLIII package that includes a buffet, free give-

aways and cheerleaders. Restaurant-bar locations such as ESPN Zone and Gordon Biersch will be showing the game on their big screen TV's for all to watch and enjoy.

On Howard's campus, the Office of Student Activities, COAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. and the Blackburn Center are hosting a gathering for students to watch the Super Bowl game in the Blackburn Center game room from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday.

To determine which team had the most optimistic fans, a survey was given to 50 randomly selected people around the D.C. area.

In result, 27 said the Steelers will steal the show while 16 said the Cardinals are going to fly to victory. Seven people didn't care who won and were more interested in the commercials.

Tune into NBC Sunday night at 6 p.m. to see who claims the Super Bowl XLIII victory.

Classes Set to Begin Next Week For CPNAHS

continued from FRONT, CPNAHS

Adderley-Kelly said, "The economic state of the university is similar to that of the country's. All classes that were canceled are now covered and will begin in a timely fashion."

After a request from HUSA to distribute a formal letter to the entire CPNAHS student body regarding the delayed instruction of courses, Adderley-Kelly will be issuing a general statement to students via e-mail today.

"The letter is already typed and ready to be sent out to students and faculty," she said.

Adderley-Kelly said, "We are basically informing them that the issue has been addressed, the nipped problem will not affect seniors' graduation and other students whose classes were delayed will be given any

extra assistance needed."

During the town hall meeting, students also used the floor to discuss a range of other issues including scheduling, poor advisement, building infrastructure and accreditation.

Adderley-Kelly assured students that CPNAHS is fully accredited and administrators are working hard to address their concerns and issues.

The dean said students can expect town hall meetings every six weeks to voice their concerns.

Adderley-Kelly will also begin meeting with the CPNAHS student council officers and other student leaders on a regular basis to discuss matters.

The next town hall meeting is scheduled for March 5 in the College of Medicine.

LEAVE YOUR MARK IN HISTORY BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUCCESS OF THE HILLTOP

GRAB A STORY THIS SUPERBOWL SUNDAY.

BUDGET MEETING IS AT 6 P.M.!

WEST TOWERS - PLAZA LEVEL

Obama Passes First Bill: Lilly Ledbetter Act

continued from FRONT, LILLY

supervisor that claimed to have had her pay lowered in comparison to her male counterparts due to discrimination.

She took her case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, and in the decision of Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. in 2007, the court ruled that a person must file a claim of discrimination at least 180 days of the company's decision to discriminate pay.

The Ledbetter Act extends the deadline of the former court ruling to another 180 days after every new discriminatory paycheck.

By signing the bill, sophomore political science major Amelia Reid believes "he's being the president that stands for change."

"Unfortunately," Reid said, "the world we live in people are going to discriminate," and therefore she isn't sure how much the Act can improve the discrimination problems in America.

English and Afro-American Studies double-major Gloria Jirsaraie also couldn't determine whether

the bill could effectively alleviate pay discrimination.

"What exactly is he doing to guarantee that the employers won't discriminate?" Jirsaraie asked. "It's good in theory but you can't just eradicate the conscious or subconscious bias in a person."

"Signing this bill today is to send a clear message: that making our economy work means making sure it works for everybody," Obama said.

Lilly Ledbetter, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and the First Lady Michelle Obama were all beside him.

"That there are no second-class citizens in our workplaces; and that it's not just unfair and illegal, it's bad for business to pay somebody less because of their gender or their age or their race or their ethnicity, religion or disability; and that justice isn't about some abstract legal theory, or footnote in a casebook. It's about how our laws affect the daily lives and the daily realities of people: their ability to make a living and care for their families and achieve their goals."

Get to Know the Newest Members of Obama's Cabinet



Brian Bauer - Sacramento Bee (MCT)

Colorado Democrat and former Attorney General Ken Salazar will be the newest Interior Secretary.

Ken L. Salazar

Department of the Interior

- 50th U.S. Secretary of the Interior
- Preceded by Dirk Kempthorne
- Served as a state Attorney General of Colorado
- Served as a U.S. Senator from 2005-2009
- Graduated from Colorado College in 1977 with a degree in political science
- Received his law degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1981
- As the Interior Secretary, Salazar will be in charge of the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Geological Survey, among other things.



Terrence Antonio - Chicago Tribune (MCT)

Former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack will be the next Agriculture Secretary for the Obama Administration.

Tom J. Vilsack

Department of Agriculture

- 30th U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
- Preceded by Ed Schafer
- Served as the 40th Governor of the state of Iowa
- Ran for the Democratic Party's nomination for United States President in the 2008 election, but withdrew from the race in 2007.
- Graduated from Hamilton College in 1972
- Earned a law degree from Albany Law School in 1975
- Served as the mayor of Mount Pleasant, Iowa in 1987
- Vilsack was abandoned at birth and was placed in a Roman Catholic orphanage.

- Compiled by Jada F. Smith, Nation & World Editor

Other Obama Cabinet Delegates

- Department of Labor designate: Hilda L. Solis
- Department of Health and Human Services designate: Tom A. Daschle
- Department of Housing and Urban Development designate: Shaun Donovan
- Department of Transportation designate: Ray H. LaHood
- Department of Energy designate: Steven Chu
- Department of Education designate: Arne Duncan
- Department of Veterans Affairs designate: Eric K. Shinseki
- Department of Homeland Security designate: Janet Napolitano

White House Staff

- Chief of Staff: Rahm Emanuel
- Deputy Chiefs of Staff: Jim Messina and Mona Sutphen
- Senior Advisors: David Axelrod, Valerie Jarrett and Pete Rouse

- Compiled by Jada F. Smith, Nation & World Editor

U.S. Military Raid Murders Iraqi Man, Woman in Bed

BY LEILA FADEL & HUSSEIN KADHIM
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi couple was killed in their bed Saturday morning as their daughter slept between them when U.S. forces raided their home.

The U.S. military said that the raid, in the area of Hawija, just west of Kirkuk, was an Iraqi government-approved operation against a wanted man and that the killings were in self-defense. But the family described the slayings of a modest farmer and his wife and the wounding of their daughter by U.S. forces as the three slept.

According to a U.S. military statement, at 2 a.m. U.S. and Iraqi soldiers entered the bedroom where the couple lay and the woman reached under the mattress. The soldiers told her multiple times to show her hands; when she didn't, they shot her, the statement said.

The woman's husband, Dhia Hussein Ali, jumped up and "physically attacked" the soldiers after his wife was shot, the statement said. The soldiers killed him in self-defense, the statement said. The couple's 9-year-old daughter, Alham, was injured during the attack.

After the killings a "high-powered pistol" was found under the mattress, the statement said. U.S. and Iraqi troops went to the house because they believed Ali was a member of al-Qaida in Iraq

and later identified him as a wanted terrorist, the statement said. He had been detained at least once before by U.S. forces in a detention center in southern Iraq in 2004, his family said.

The U.S. military said the operation was "fully coordinated with Iraqi authorities (who were also present for the operation) and conducted with full respect for the Iraqi Constitution and the laws of Iraq."

After a security agreement took effect Jan. 1, the U.S. military can conduct operations on their own if Iraqi authorities approve them and they are coordinated with Iraqi authorities.

Ali Dabbagh, the Iraqi government spokesman, said he had no information on the raid.

Brig. Gen. Abdel Kareem Khalaf, the spokesman for the Ministry of Interior, told National Public Radio that no Iraqi forces were present at the raid, and he demanded an investigation. It was unclear if the raid was approved, he said.

"We have asked for a joint investigative committee plus we have asked for an explanation from the American side regarding what happened," he told NPR. "Up to now there were victims on the ground and we have to know why."

In the small village where Dhia Hussein Ali lived, his children and his father questioned the reason for the raid. Ali was a modest farmer with a small fish pool where he raised the popular carp eaten in Iraq, they said. The man was

a former officer in Saddam Hussein's army.

Omar Dhia Hussein, 14, was in shock Saturday night. He said in a telephone interview that in the morning he'd seen his parents' bodies side by side in their bed, the sheets covered in blood. The wall was covered with his father's blood, he said.

At 2 a.m., Hussein said, he heard a bang of a percussion grenade. When he opened his eyes he saw American soldiers standing over him in the room where he slept with his two sisters. Except for an Iraqi interpreter there were no Iraqis with the Americans, he said.

The interpreter shouted at the young boy.

"You are hiding weapons," Hussein recalled the interpreter saying. "Where are you hiding the weapons? You are terrorists, you are hiding weapons in that unfinished house. Confess!"

Hussein began to cry and his sisters wept with him, he said. Then the American soldiers left and he heard gunfire next door.

The soldiers carried Hussein's wounded sister from the room and took the remaining four children, including Hussein, to his uncle's home. Outside were at least four U.S. Humvees and two SUVs, Hussein said. His grandfather, Hussein Ali, who lives next door saw no Iraqi soldiers, either.

After the Americans left, Hussein and his sisters returned to their home



Thomas James Hurst - Seattle Times (MCT)

During a raid in Hawija, an Iraqi couple was killed by U.S. soldiers, their 9-year-old daughter injured. Authorities suspected the husband to be an al-Qaida member.

with their grandfather. In his parents' bedroom, Hussein said, he saw his father's body at the very edge of the right side of the bed, motionless and bloody. His mother lay in the middle of

the bed in a pool of her own blood. She'd been shot in the head, the family said.

"I will avenge my father's death," Hussein said calmly Saturday evening.

KWAME SPEAKS: Why We Can't Wait

I believe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was correct:

"But when you have seen vicious mobs lynch your mothers and fathers at will and drown your sisters and brothers at whim...when you see the vast majority of your 20 million negro brothers smothering in an airtight cage of poverty in the midst of an affluent society...There comes a time when the cup of endurance runs over, and men are no longer willing to be plunged into the abyss of despair."

What we have seen in the past year is the ascent of a man who many believe is the heir to the legacy of one, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This cannot be further from the truth. Dr. King chided us, as did men like W.E.B. Dubois and women like Ella Baker, that the time for swift action on behalf of the African population is now.

Their involvement in movements for change and liberation were predicated on the belief that the African community's advancement was the initial step in achieving a new world order based upon real peace and liberty. King warned us of the three evils, that the much maligned (even by some Howard folk) Rev. Jeremiah Wright reminded us of on this past Sunday. The interconnected institutions of systemic racism, rogue and dehumanizing capitalism, and bloody-thirsty militarism exist on a much larger and insidious scale today than

when King uttered his words.

Dubois, Baker and King all had ideas about change. But their ideas of change were designed to eliminate what happened in New Orleans, La. on Jan. 1, and again in Oakland, Calif. They were designed to liberate us materially, socially and spiritually. They believed in uburu, and this was not to take place gradually. We cannot wait for laws, a new Civil Rights Act, or cosmetic 'changes' to an inherently unjust system. In "The Suppression of the Transatlantic Slave Trade," Dubois states:

"Consequently, we often congratulate ourselves more on getting rid of a problem than on solving it. Such an attitude is dangerous; we have and shall have, as other peoples have had, critical, momentous and pressing questions to answer. The riddle of the Sphinx may be postponed, it may be evasively answered now; sometime it must be fully answered."

It behooves the United States, therefore, in the interest both of scientific truth and of future social reform, to carefully study such chapters of her history as that of the suppression of the slave trade. The most obvious question which this study suggests is: How far in a state can a recognized moral wrong safely be compromised?

The murders of innocent African men and women is nothing new, and are symptoms of the systematic denial of first

the humanity, then rights, and ultimately the lives of people of African descent and other poor people across the world. Gazans too 'have the right to exist.' Oscar Grant Jr. had the right to exist. Adolph Grimes III too had the right to exist. It is a two-way street.

As a great scholar on campus recently stated, we cannot substitute diversity for inequality. Do not allow the normative conversation to use this election as the 'solving' of the more germane problem of our existence. When we remember King, we must move the conversation past a paragraph of the "I Have a Dream Speech." Arguably, his most important words came in a 1967 interview in *Harper's* magazine:

"For years I have labored with the idea of refining the existing institutions of the society, a little change here, a little change there. Now I feel quite differently. I think you've got to have a reconstruction of the entire society, a revolution of values."

"Why We Can't Wait" is not only a book written by King, but in many ways it is a charge for the African-based community in America to spearhead his idea of achieving a revolution of values. When? Right now.

- Josh Myers, Kwame Toure Society



www.people.suzytiller.edu

Howard alumnus Kwame Ture was a civil rights activist who, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., fought for justice in the African-American community.

The **Kwame Ture Society** is a research-based organization geared towards history, historiography and historicity. **Kwame Speaks** is a mechanism that the Kwame Ture Society uses to communicate a unique perspective to the Howard University community on current and relevant issues. Questions and comments can be directed to kts_hu@yahoo.com

Howard's Lacrosse Team Adds a New Coach

UVA Grad Jessica Morgan looks to take the women's lacrosse team to new heights, recruit talent

BY NIA MOORE
Contributing Writer

From the very moment she stepped onto campus and shook hands with all of the girls, Jessica Morgan wasted no time picking up the pieces of Howard's depreciated women's lacrosse program.

"I got the call eight months ago," Morgan said, a recent graduate of the University of Virginia. "I knew upon accepting the position that the program itself was struggling, disorganized and lacked proper direction. But I believed that it had a lot of potential, and if put into the right hands, could develop into a very successful one."

Morgan's introduction was just two weeks ago, and her arrival was nothing short of highly anticipated. When the former head coach resigned after just one year, the girls felt a little discouraged and even more frustrated.

"We have dealt with a lot of hardships, from lack of equipment to a shortage of players at times," said Ivy Pierce, a junior sports psychology major and member of the lacrosse team. "But when Jessica came in as our new coach, all of that didn't matter because we were anxious to get back to business."

Before taking the position at Howard, Morgan, a Baltimore native, had already made a name for herself in the lacrosse community. In addition to her efforts to coach young girls in the Baltimore area with her own non-profit lacrosse program, she also holds quite a few reputable accolades under her belt, stemming from her own collegiate lacrosse career.

At the University of Virginia, Jessica Morgan and the Lady Cavaliers went to the NCAA Division-I National Championship two consecutive years, eventually winning the entire championship in the third year.

She has three Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) titles to her name and was voted 8th Best African-American Lacrosse Player of All Time. Still, her success didn't end after her career at UVA. She went on to compete with the USA team from 2006-2008.

"Playing at the national level is a totally different experience," Morgan said. "I picked up a completely different coaching style and it was a much higher level of play."

Apart from her many personal achievements, Morgan said she feels she brings several other essential assets to the table which will make her coaching experience at the Mecca a successful one.

"I have a lot of personality and energy," Morgan said. "I'm honest and fair and I want the girls to not only work hard, but having fun out there is just as important."

The players share the same sentiments about their new coach.

"Because she is young and possesses a lot of energy, we can relate to her on a more comfortable level," Pierce said.

"Coaching is a lot easier when you have someone who is not too far removed from the level of play that you are at," she said. "She knows what we are likely to face out there, so I am confident that we will be prepared to compete."

Once her first season as a collegiate coach winds down this spring, she will head into the traditional recruiting season steadfast.

And despite the program's previous lack of recognition and recruitment, Morgan plans to seek out and bring in talent to further build the program. She believes that the name itself, Howard University, is a viable resource.

"Personally, if Howard's program existed when I was initially being recruited by colleges, I would have come here," Morgan said. "It's such a respectable university and I would have been the third generation in my family to attend the school. We have to use the logo as a recruitment strategy because girls do want to come here."

The Lady Bison face their first opponents at home on Saturday, Feb. 14.

The season opener will be held against the Lady Retrievers of the University of Maryland-Baltimore County.

"The girls owe it to themselves to have a winning season," Morgan said. "I am a firm believer of the saying 'you get out what you put in,' so if the girls work hard, they will surely become winners."

Last year, Sakita Holley led the team with 43 goals. She also had three assists. Candice Bouknight was second in the team in scoring with 24 goals.

The Bison finished the 2008 season with a record of 2-11. Their record at Greene Stadium is 2-7. On the road, they were 0-4.

With a new coach at the helm, however, the lacrosse team hopes to reverse their fortunes this season.



Photo Courtesy of Oscar Merida IV
Senior public relations major Sakita Holley (above) led the women's lacrosse team in goals last year. With their new coach, Jessica Morgan, the team hopes to improve their record.

Lacrosse Team Seeks More Players, Looks to 'Revive' Game

BY TENI-OLA OGUNJOBI
Contributing Writer

When it comes to playing a full contact team sport, the players have to be able to work well with others, commit to the sport and have a passion for athletics.

These are the kinds of qualities the women's lacrosse team is in search of as they start their 2009 season and their search for more teammates.

The game requires 12 girls playing on the field at one time, but the lacrosse team roster has only 14 players. This is not enough players for game substitutions in such a physically demanding sport.

Their dilemma has prompted the team to recruit at least 10 new athletes to fill out the team.

"We are playing a very physically challenging sport," said Sakita Holley, the team's senior captain. "Because 12 girls have to be out on the field throughout the game, we need more players in order to have an equal number of players to substitute and a full roster."

The sport is played using a solid rubber ball and a long-handle racket, the lacrosse stick.

The object of the game is for the offense to use the lacrosse stick to catch, carry and pass the ball in an effort to score by hurling the ball into the opponent's goal. Meanwhile, the defense tries to keep the opposing team from scoring and strip them of the ball through the use of checking and body contact.

"The game requires someone who is mentally and physically prepared for the challenge," Holley said.

The team's season kicks off on Feb. 14. With their first game just two weeks away, their attempt to recruit new players may seem to have come at the wrong time. But with the addition of their new head coach Jessica Morgan, the newly added players will be joining



Photo Courtesy of Oscar Merida IV
Ashley Lawrence, above, is sophomore captain of the women's lacrosse team. The team is looking to "revamp," seeking more players to add to their team.

the team just in time to learn the coach's new style and system.

"The new players will be coming on at a good time because we all will be getting to know our new coach and learning her new system together," said Ashley Lawrence, sophomore captain. "It will be a new system for new players as well as veteran players, we just all have to adjust."

In addition to providing ample substitutes during the game, the new players will also bring relief to the team.

A lot of the players sustain injuries due to the excessive amount of time they have to play in the game. Playing an entire game without resting can cause more injuries as opposed to players playing in sets and allowing themselves to rest.

"We have a few players who are

injured because they get overworked in the game," Lawrence said. "If we allow some players to be relieved, it helps their bodies and keeps the energy up during the game."

In an effort to revive the team and build morale within the university and community, the women's lacrosse team is in the process of revamping. The recruitment of new players is expected to help with this goal.

"Recruiting players can only enhance the team," said junior Alnisha Minter. "They get a chance to play an up-and-coming sport that is becoming very popular and it's exciting to play."

Female students interested in joining the team can visit the athletic department in Burr Gymnasium for inquiries about the team.

Interesting Facts About the Super Bowl

- In 1944, the Cardinals and the Steelers were once the same team. They joined teams for a season because of World War 2. The team was 0-10.
- The Super Bowl will be played in Tampa Bay for the fourth time.
- The last time the Cardinals played for a championship was in 1948. The only other sports franchise with a longer drought is the Chicago Cubs.
- Mike Ditka, Tom Flores and Tony Dungy have all won Super Bowls as both a player and coach.
- The most passing yards in a Super Bowl was set by Kurt Warner in 2000. He threw for 414 yards.
- No Super Bowl has ever gone into overtime.
- The first Super Bowl was played in 1967. The Green Bay Packers defeated the Kansas Chiefs 35-10.
- The Super Bowl trophy is engraved by Tiffany & Company.
- The Cardinals were founded in 1898; they started off as the Morgan Athletic Club.

- Deontay Morris, Sports Editor

Sports Trivia!

What coach has won the most Super Bowls?

Answer:
Search Today's Hilltop!


TODAY IN SPORTS HISTORY

January 30, 1920

Joe Malone sets the NHL record of seven goals in a game.

Courtesy of www.todayinsports.com


THE HILLTOP



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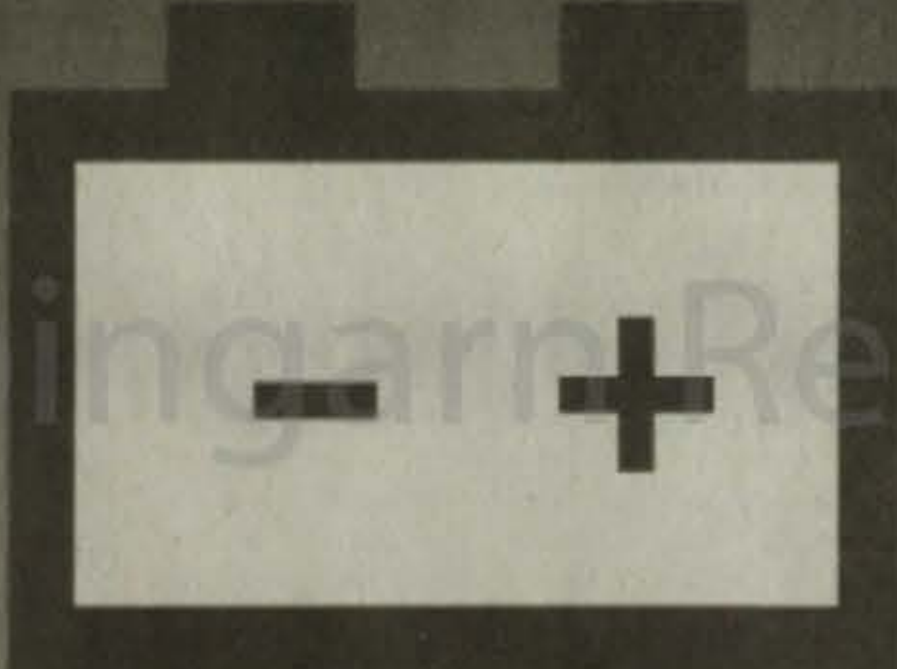


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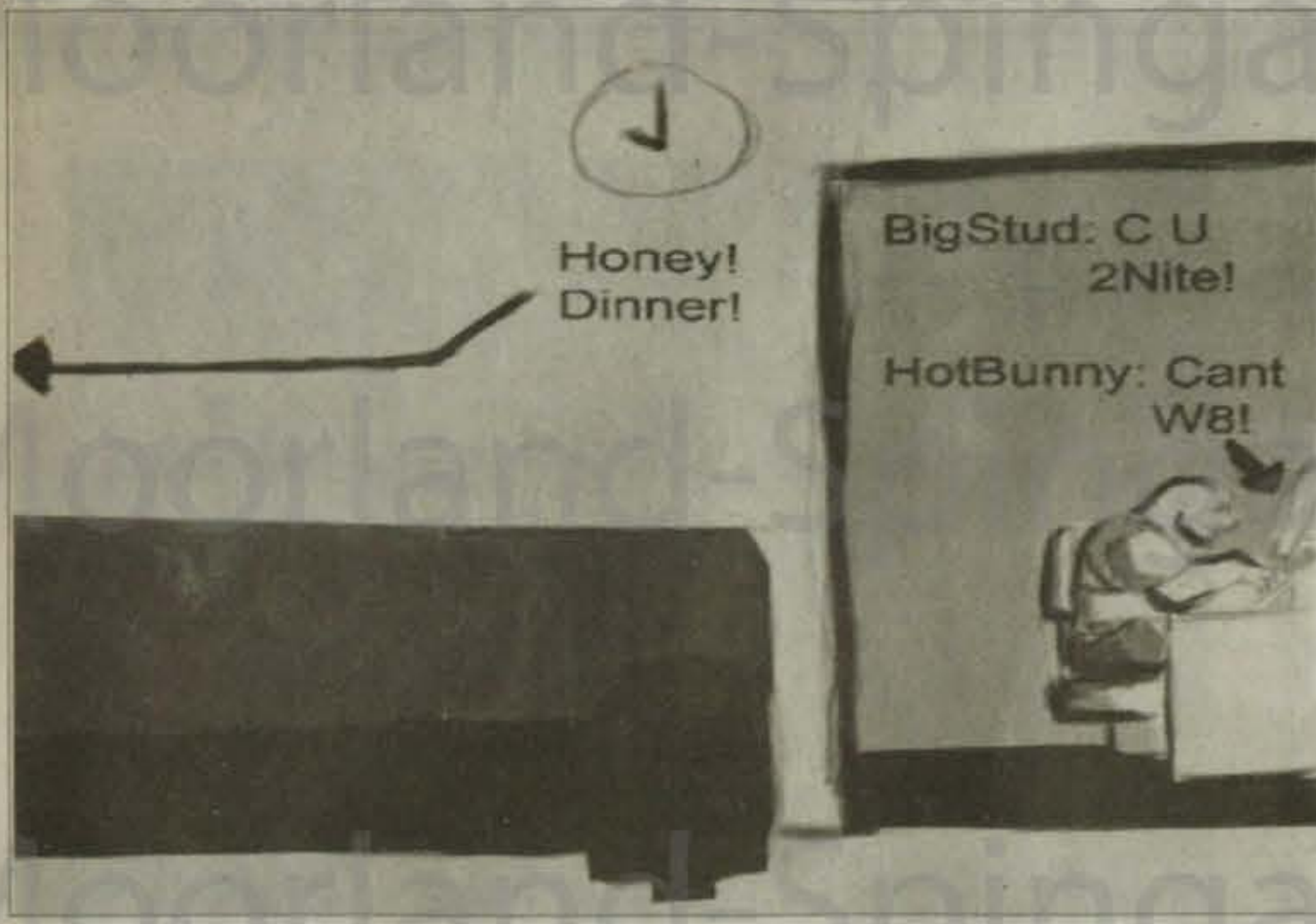
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Charles Metze III - Cartoonist

AshleyMadison.com: Lucrative Business or Homewreck Haven?

"Life is short. Have an affair." This is the exact tag line for AshleyMadison.com, a popular web site for married men and women who are looking to have an affair. At first glance, one might assume, that there surely is not a web site that advocates cheating and arranged affairs. But no, you are wrong.

AshleyMadison.com was established in 2001 and services over 3,240,000 married adults. The web site even offers an "Affair Guarantee," which promises its users a complete refund of \$249 if they fail to find a match within the initial three months. With recent divorce statistics showing that 60 percent of marriages will end in divorce, it is fair to say that organizations that support adultery are an agent in failed marriage statistics.

The Ashley Madison Agency is a complete disgrace to the institution of marriage. Noel Biderman, the president and creator of the site, considers AshleyMadison.com

to be a dating service rather a moral discredit. In his "Letter from the President," which is posted on the site, Biderman states, "We believe we have truly perfected what it is that you need to start on this journey." What journey? Does he

Our View:
The country's high divorce rates are partially due to home-wrecking web sites that encourage cheating.

mean the journey to infidelity? Or the journey that leaves children in broken homes without both parents around to raise them? The mere idea of paying to cheat is ridiculous in itself.

Deciding to cheat on one's spouse and family is a personal decision, but why waste your money on something that can be done for free? At least if you are going to be

a cheater, be frugal about it.

Ironically, Biderman is happily married (well at least that is what he says). He and his wife appeared on the Tyra Banks show in defense of their adulterous business. Mrs. Biderman defended her husband's company, arguing that cheating is a personal choice.

Although the institution of marriage is based upon religious values, there are also factors that make it a legal issue as well. In a divorce court, adultery is grounds for divorce. Blaming AshleyMadison.com for one's divorce would be a stretch because if someone has made up their mind to cheat then they will do so. But, the company definitely has been the driving force behind broken homes, among other issues that lead to divorce.

While AshleyMadison.com is a lucrative company, its creator and its users should consider the values of the site and the repercussions that it produces.

Daily Sudoku

Directions:

Each row, each column and each 3x3 box must contain each and every digit 1-9 exactly once.

				4			7	
2							4	3
4	7		3			2		
		8			1		2	7
	4		7		5		8	
7	9		8			3		
		9			3		4	6
8		7						2
	3			8				

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The Hilltop?**

Come to our next budget meeting!

Sunday @ 6 p.m. in the West Towers

**Do you have an opinion
about something?**

We'd like to hear from you!

**Submit your perspective to
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Let your voice be heard!

**Please do not exceed
500 words and please
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Now in its 84th year, The Hilltop is published Monday through Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of 7,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial & Perspectives page are the views of the The Hilltop Editorial Board and those of the authors and do not necessarily represent Howard University or its administration.

The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.

The Hilltop prints every day. The first 20 words are \$10 and .25 for each additional word.

All classifieds must be submitted and paid for 5 business days in advance.

We accept payment in the form of cashier's checks, money orders, and company checks. **NO CASH**

Any questions? Contact The Hilltop Business Office at 202 806 4749 or email us at hilltopbusiness@gmail.com.

**School of C
Week is
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January
25-30
2009**

How do you wear your Howard paraphernalia? Do you bedazzle your sweat-shirt? Do you turn your favorite HU T-shirt into a halter?

Well, we would love to see it! The Howard University circular is looking for creative customizations for our **BRAND NEW 'Do It Yourself' section**. Our favorite look will be featured in our February circular.

Send an email with your name, year, and department, as well as a picture of your finished HU customization outfit to: hubmarketingdept@yahoo.com. **Deadline is January 30, 2009.**

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Monday-
Takeover your school
Howard Politics @ 7pm
Location: Douglass Hall Rm. 116
Tuesday-
Takeover your mind
Poetry Night @ 7pm
Location: TBA
Wednesday-
Takeover your finances
Economy @ 7pm
Location: TBA
Thursday-
Takeover the game
Spades Tournament @ 7pm
Location: Blackburn Recreation room
Friday-
Takeover your body
HIV/AIDs awareness
Time and Location: TBA
Saturday-
THE TAKEOVER
Talent Show @ 7pm
Location: Cramton Auditorium
Tickets available at Cramton \$10.00

The International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi for our recruitment week:
Monday, January 26, 2009
Against All Odds: Entrepreneurship Business Attire Required
Tuesday, January 27, 2009
The Bailout Plan: Financial Security and the Economy Business Attire Required
Wednesday, January 28, 2009
Moments of Success: Iota Rho History
Thursday, January 29, 2009
The Cabinet: Meet the Brotherhood
Friday, January 30, 2009
Applications Due
Saturday, January 31, 2009
The Secret Service Service with Men: Community Service
All events will be held in the School of Business, Rm. 428 promptly beginning at 7:07 unless otherwise noted and refreshments will be served. Please bring resumes to each event.

Alpha Delta Beta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. Presents Chi Week

Sunday, February 1, 2009
Call to Chapel
Cramton Auditorium
10:32am

Tuesday, February 3, 2009
If I Knew Then, What I Know Now
Nursing Building Room 124
7:32 pm

Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Game Night
Blackburn Game Room
7:32pm

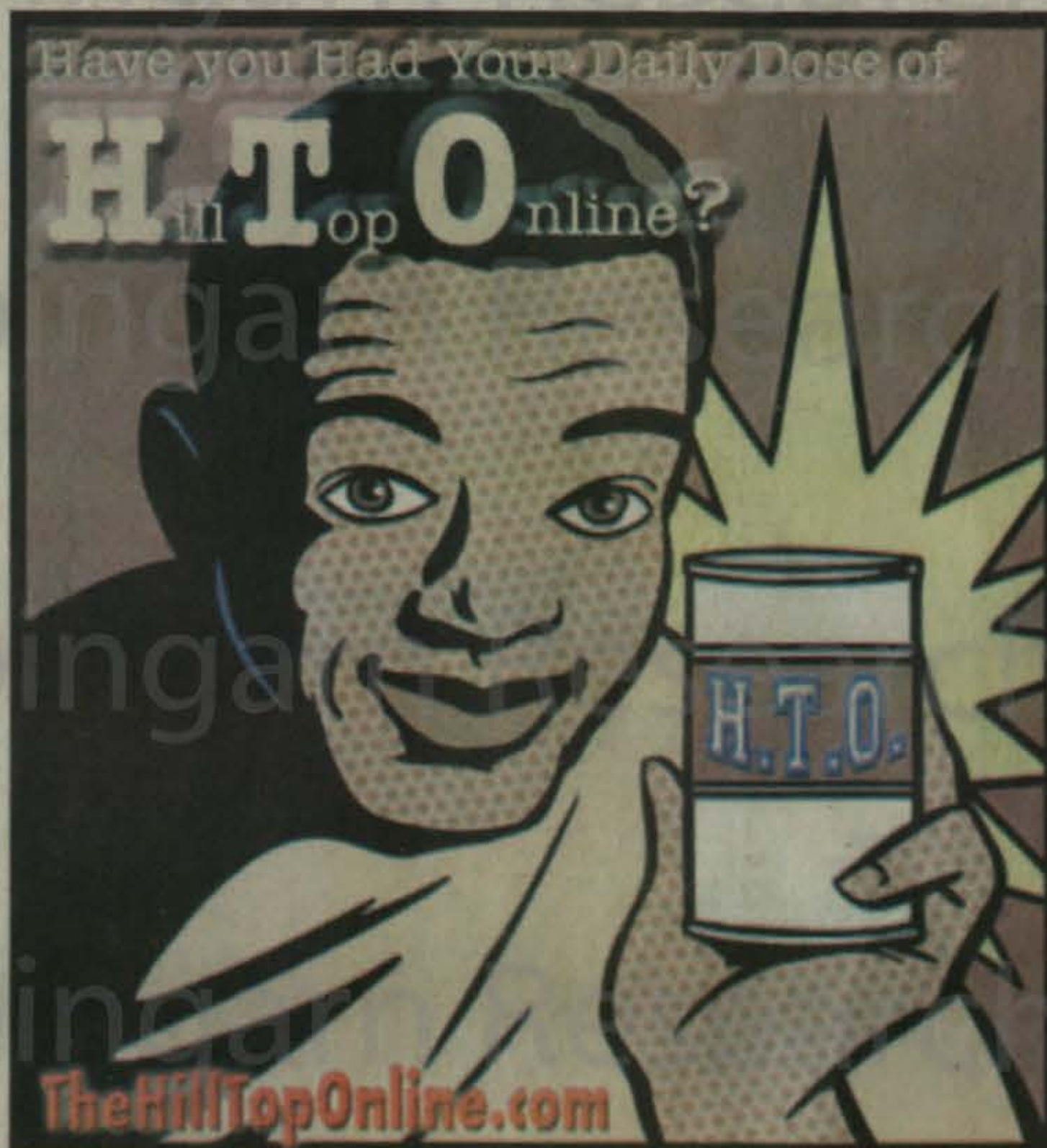
Thursday, February 5, 2009
Informational Tea
Dental School Auditorium 5th Floor
7:32pm

Friday, February 6, 2009
Movie Night
TBA



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The J.H.J. School of Communications Student Council **STILL** wants you to ... **REMEMBER WHY YOU ARE HERE.**